

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 12, as follows:

The upper layer, ~~i.e. the aforesaid protective element 18~~, of said upper element 13 consists of a first layer ~~18~~ 13a made of vapor-permeable and/or perforated material, such as for example perforated leather.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, as follows:

Below said first layer ~~or protective element 18~~ 13a a second layer is provided, which coincides with, or is the very vapor-permeable comfort layer 14, made of a three-dimensional fabric.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 18, as follows:

The leather of the first layer ~~18~~ 13a is directed outwardly so as to fit the sole by wrapping around the edge of the second layer 14 or optionally also wrapping around the lateral edge of the third layer 20, as in the case of so-called "fussbett" plantar elements.